

480
My Dr Sir,

Decem. 20th. 1788

I am very unfortunate in the miscarriage
of my last, wish it may come to hand; whether lengthy or not
I don't remember, but recollect answering your queries &
asking in return some information of you - Mr Pitt when
with me once & oftener mentioned to me the unhappiness
between you & T. spoke of the Affair that happened involun-
tarily in Mr Pitt's hand, and suggested that he had taken a part,
but was so far wavering that he would wish to be inform-
ed from me, how the Affair was circumstanced from its be-
ginning - I escaped him sundry times, but finally, deter-
mined that it was an affair, in which I was so connected, that
I could not without a breach of common Decorum, & violence
to my feelings mention the Transaction, therefore explicitly
desired Mr Pitt not to urge me upon the Subject -

He added that Mrs Pitt dissuaded him from coming to -
but that he answered by saying he was determined on know-
ing the bottom of the affair; but in all his Views tending this
way, he was frustrated, & parted upon this subject, on the
above ground - Respecting the other gentleman how he ob-
tained his very complete information I am in part at

a loss to conjecture; I had not the most distant Idea that he was acquainted with the affair till you mentioned it - and was much surprised at being told by Penhallow that after determining to send my Packet by him, it was concluded best to defer it until Mr. - returned.

On his return at a convenient Opportunity he mentioned the charge in commission to him from Mr. - and delivered the Packet. Then added a request of a very extraordinary nature made ^{to him} by Mr. - respecting me, which discovered to me that he was not unacquainted with the affair. He hinted his knowledge and in such a way that I found it incumbent on me to enquire his explanation, - He has not informed me how he obtained his knowledge; but I suppose the channel might be easily guessed at. Mr. D. knew the whole unhappy scene - Still further Mr. W.'s conversation respecting the Packet was not a little singular to a person unacquainted with

with the Affair — I had determined never again to
commemorate a single thought upon the subject — but
suffer me to add this for finale, that I have the highest &
Opinion of the propriety of Miss F.'s behavior through^{out}
out — a dignity & delicacy I never will cease to re-
member — Is she out of health, what is the situation
of her mind, gay, or depressed, what are her real sentiments
through this transaction? Write me & in answer.

Give yourself no anxiety in conjecturing my acquain-
tance with your family; was your whole history known to
me alone, it would be covered from every eye; I never was
so inquisitive in my search, and my knowledge is much more
or confined than you imagine — Your good sister was in the
same town with me, and I have felt it a duty to be her
elder brother — Where the advent of such a relation could be
refix, I bestowed it with pleasure, & wished sincerely to have
had it in my power to have said effusively 'be thou
blessed' — I wrote you some time since the cause of her being
about to remove from Dorch^{est} and the prospect she had
before her

before her of passing the winter with Mr. Jones, but this as I in
the time of it thought it would turn out merely a compliment
my proposal - after which Col. Gerrish of Newbury new town
gave Sally an invitation to pass a month or two with him
~~at Newbury~~, and a sister of his, a Mr. Newell (who it
appears is a distant Relation of yours) added an invitation
for another month, and made a proposal of her coming
after these visits, to Exeter to carry with a sister Newell.

I think the lady's name is of hers who wished some
young lady to live as a companion with her.
Col. Gerrish carried Sally to his house which is very near
his sister Newell's where she now is, but unfortunately
by the Exeter plan has fallen through. Some other young
lady made a previous application, and the place which would
have been very agreeable, was engaged - Some of her friends
here, who are all her acquaintances have another plan
which if ^{it} succeeds will answer well - Rely on my at-
tention respecting your Sister, and depend on it no
plan shall be adopted to ^{the feelings of} ensure a proud & affectionate

Booth

Brother - Her situation at Newtown is very clever, & I believe your sister passes her time very agreeably -

In the letter which failed you, requested the kindness of you, to enquire of Mr. Dana what are the requisites for an introduction to the Inns of Court or Chancery in England, who must be known, where Application must be made, whether he conceives an American passing to spend from thence to England would be admitted as a student, considering the present situation of our countries - If so what would be the bestest expense at which a young Gentleman, wishing to make a decent appearance, could pass a year or any given time in the Inns of Court or Chancery - and whether

these Inns are not the best calculated for acquiring a Legal Education of any institution in Europe - Pray make this enquiry for me, and such other particulars as you would wish to be satisfied in -

Adieu - Yours affectionately

RK

R King 1778

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